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The China Mail.

ESTABLISHED 1845

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(Reuter's Service the China Mail.)

RUHR AND REPARATIONS.

MR. BONAR LAW'S SPEECH.

SOME FRENCH COMMENTS.

PARIS, February 14.
Commenting on Mr. Bonar Law's speech the newspapers declare that the statement that France did not wish to see Germany strong enough to pay the reparations is the reverse of the truth. On the contrary France does not wish to see Germany become strong enough to refuse to pay. While the cordiality of Mr. Bonar Law's tone towards France is appreciated it is regretted that he failed accurately to appreciate France's situation. It is asserted that the German recalcitrancy is encouraged by British neutrality and urged that British co-operation with the French and Belgians would end the German resistance. Alternatively it is suggested that Britain might persuade Germany to accept a fair compromise and so enable the discussion of a final settlement.

FRENCH AMBASSADORS ADDRESS.

LONDON, February 14.
The French ambassador, addressing the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, asked what would be the effect if France who was Britain's most important customer was crushed by the burden of the debt incurred firstly to repel German aggression and secondly to restore the devastated territory. France had received practically nothing from Germany and on the contrary had advanced Germany over a hundred thousand million francs. It was an incredible and scandalous paradox that France was obliged to become banker for the aggressor whose productive power was retained intact. Britain would have acted more firmly and more quickly.

ASQUITHIAN'S ATTITUDE.

LONDON, February 14.
In the House of Commons a joint Asquithian National Liberal amendment to the address from the throne will be moved by Mr. H. A. L. Fisher and will, it is expected, be supported by Sir John Simon and Mr. Lloyd George. It declares that inasmuch as the future peace of Europe cannot be safeguarded nor the recovery of reparations be promoted by Franco-Belgian operations in the Ruhr, it is urgently necessary to seek effective securities against aggression by international guarantees under the League of Nations and to invite the Council of the League without delay to appoint a commission of experts to report on the capacity of Germany to pay reparations and the best method of effecting such payment; and that in view of recent indications of the willingness of the Government of the United States to participate in a conference in this regard the British representatives on the Council of the League to appoint an expert to sit on the Commission.

FRENCH GETTING STRICTER.

LONDON, February 14.
News from the Ruhr indicates the increasing strictness of the French. A strong French force entered Gelsenkirchen and demanded the surrender of six policemen involved in an affray. Several others were arrested owing to their attitude while the detachment was passing with the prisoners.

The French are severely punishing Gelsenkirchen owing to sabotage and interference with telegraph and telephone communication with Paris. They are also punishing Bochum for the refusal of the authorities to allow the requisition of motorcars and they threaten to murder the chauffeurs if the cars were requisitioned.

The punishment of recalcitrant police and other officials continues. The Burgomaster and Chief of Police at Dusseldorf were expelled by the French at Bresenay and sentenced to two years' imprisonment and a fine of a hundred thousand marks for refusing to carry out their duties.

PARIS, February 14.

Thirty-two residents of Gelsenkirchen have been arrested.

PASSIVE RESISTANCE HARDENING.

LONDON, February 14.
The Manchester Guardian's correspondent at Essen says that the wholesale deportations following the conference of Mr. Trocquer and General Weygand are part of the deliberate policy of removing the German civil authorities and replacing them with French and Belgians.

Nevertheless the passive resistance of the population is hardening. With a few exceptions there has been hardly any violence since the speech and the false heroes filling Berlin newspapers find no room here. One constantly hears the phrase, 'If we win then all was headlong will be meaningless.'

There is, however, a dangerous and growing tendency to deal with war-crime by mob-law. The personal of the Kaiser's hotel were compelled to join the boycott of the French because they were not by themselves. Leadership of the passive resistance has passed into the hands of 'labour' whose organisations are responsible for planning the walk-out of Essen and calling on the people to resist.

FRENCH LOSING PATIENCE.

PARIS, February 14.
Everywhere there are signs of a new mood of French patience. When the last employees of the Kaiser's hotel struck, the French light was shown to the German workers. The French are losing patience.

THE DOLLAR.

To-day's closing rate 2/2 13/1
To-day's opening rate 2/2 13/16

RUHR AND REPARATIONS.

FURTHER FRENCH STEPS.

PARIS, February 14.
A message from Dusseldorf states that in consequence of the growing effectiveness of the population, especially at Bochum, Castrop, Herne and Recklinghausen the French have decided to disarm the security police who are becoming more hostile and transform them into municipal police.

Cologne, February 14.

During the past month in occupied territory eighty-six newspapers were suspended for varying periods, twenty-eight prohibited from entering the occupied zone, and seven more were suspended to-day.

RAILWAY DIFFICULTY SOLVED.

Cologne, February 14.

An agreement has practically been concluded by the inter-Allied railway sub-commission regarding the readjustment of the railway difficulty. The details have not been divulged but it is announced significantly that if an important key section of the railway is handed over to the French no precedent would be established thereby, since the boundaries of the occupied areas were frequently readjusted.

THE BRITISH ZONE.

PARIS, February 14.

M. Lefrancq, Minister of Public Works, and General Fayot went to London this afternoon to confer with the British Government in regard to the utilisation of the railways in the British zone of occupied Germany.

LUXOR'S SEALED CHAMBER.

OPENING CEREMONY TO-MORROW.

Luxor, February 14.

Tourists are already thronging the Valley of the Kings and are increasing daily following the announcement of the decision to open the sealed chamber in Tutankhamen's tomb on February 16.

The occasion will be one of great ceremony and will be attended by Lord Allenby and the Queen of the Belgians who arrives in Alexandria on February 16.

It is hoped that King Fuad will send a detachment of his bodyguard of picked Egyptian troops as a guard of honour.

The work of clearing the outer chamber has been speeded up, the treasures brought out including elaborately decorated chariots, a lion-headed couch, state robes, horus birds and strange heraldic animals in bizarre and artistic designs.

NOT A TREASURE THOV.

RUSSIAN CROWN JEWELS HOAX.

NEW YORK, February 14.

Large crowds gathered in the military cemetery at Brooklyn to witness the official opening of the grave of an obscure seaman which allegedly contained the Russian crown jewels. Several attempts were recently made to rob the grave, necessitating a military guard on the grave day, and night for many weeks. A company of soldiers who opened the grave to-day, ascertained that the rumours were baseless as nothing of value was found.

LONDON EXCHANGE MARKET.

LONDON, February 14.

The London exchanges have been quiet during the past few days. The closing rates to-day were: French francs 78/05, Belgian francs 88/85, Italian lire 98. German marks improved to 103,000/107,000 and sterling to 4/8 1/2.

NEW FRENCH LOAN.

PARIS, February 14.

The objects of the loan of thirteen milliard francs are to pay off five milliard francs of treasury bonds maturing in June and meet the estimated expenses of the reconstruction of the liberated regions.

PRICE OF SUGAR.

LONDON, February 14.

Following the rise in the price of sugar in France and America wholesale dealers in the Clyde have asked for an advance of six shillings a hundredweight.

LORD MILETUS SURRENDERED IN AVEY 235,611.

LONDON, February 14.

Lord Minto, Governor of the Clyde, has been awarded all his expenses and broadsword for the King.

ROME UNEMPLOYMENT.

BUSINESS NOTICE.

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Brown Suede Shoe. Semi-Brogan style. Very smart shape. Extremely comfortable.

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It acts gently on the liver, kidneys and bowels, and eliminates from the system all impurities. It relieves the congested condition arising from sedentary occupations, overwork, errors of diet, etc., etc.

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HONGKONG CIGAR STORE,
Alexandra Buildings.

The China Mail.

"TRUTH, JUSTICE, PUBLIC SERVICE"

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, FEB. 15, 1923.

CHINA NEW YEAR.

Kung hay fat choy! Despite the hard times and the dreary weather, Hongkong's heart is glad. Even the fear that the end of the sixty year cycle means trouble—superstitious amahs have warned children not to say "kung hay fat choy to morrow" for this very reason—even the darkest forebodings cannot make Hongkong's heart heavy in this happy season. Chinese greatest festival has come round once more; the new year celebrated countless times before, is here again, its appeal nothing lessened and its charm, in these material times, even greater. Everything is now ready for the great day, to-morrow. Preliminary stories with crackers have already scared away the demons. Lanterns, quaintly traced, have been hung outside doorways and red papers have been distributed for luck. Feasts have been arranged and best clothes selected. This evening the Chinese maid will draw water for three days' use and the well (in Hongkong, a prosaic city main) will be sealed. The most obvious of the wordy battle that has raged over her status, even this very afternoon, will sweep the house with extra care. Knowing their maintenance for another twelve moons, children—a very wide term for this occasion, including young men still unmarried and spinster who have not yet performed the ceremony renouncing matrimony—children will be given money, so much for every year they have lived. The kitchen god, returned from making his report to heaven, will be duly re-enthroned. The main

door will be sealed up to-night and opened in the morning. Debts paid and collected (as far as Canton dialect orders permit), thus will the Chinese start the new year with joy and with hope. Thus will this great race, having added one more chapter to its age-old story, face another twelve-months' history, its national instinct strong as ever, the call of its destiny clear and inspiring: That China will yet overcome the evil forces threatening her heritage, that she will yet recover her ancient greatness there can be no doubt whatever. Modern republics cannot be substituted for autocratic systems centuries old, without some disorder and confusion. Rome was not built in a day, neither was any present day government established in a decade. The French are said to be Europe's most logical people, but a brief 125 years has seen their country's government republic, dictatorship, empire, monarchy, republic again, once more empire, and now yet again republic. A century and a quarter forms but a fraction of China's history, twelve years but a fleeting minute. The Chinese have a secret of perpetuity. "A Mediterranean civilization, as we are now discovering, was destroyed before our history began. Before Minoes was, China is, subject to anarchy and conquests and super-ficial changes of all kinds, but still the same China, with the same kind of age in its earliest bronze, the same sophisticated yet simple scepticism, that remains to this day." But this, we are told, does not mean mere inertia, for many will agree with Mr. Bertrand Russell that the Chinese enjoy life more than we do, and have deeper intellectual interests; only they have made up their minds about things as we have not; they are born with their minds made up, and have been for thousands of years, where we incessantly argue about it and try to

experiments that to them would not have been worth trying. Try as we may to despise this indifference at barbarous, we must yet, as the Times points out, remember that it was before we were and may endure when we are no longer. "The Chinese of the future are not likely to trouble themselves with the history of their decline and fall; but they may append a note to their histories to the effect that in a certain century the foreign devils of the West ceased to molest them and life became altogether more agreeable." Meanwhile, what over the future may bring, the foreign devils not only triumph in the west but are also a power in the East, and the China Mail, their oldest newspaper in this part of that vast realm, may perhaps be permitted, for the 78th time, to wish the Chinese race the seasonable "Kung hay fat choy."

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

* * The China Mail will not be published to-morrow, China New Year Day.

One imported American case of small-pox, a Chinese case of enteric fever and an imported British case of cerebro-spinal fever were reported yesterday.

Playing at the V.R.C. last night, in the open billiards championship of the Colony, Mr. Tseng beat Mr. Barnshaw, the scores being 500 to 422. Mr. Tseng's highest break was 40 and Mr. Barnshaw's 27.

Mr. James Rankin has been appointed General Agent of the C.P.S., Ltd., in Japan, in charge of Operating and Traffic, with headquarters at Yokohama; and Mr. Maurice Fitzgerald has been appointed Special Representative for Japan.

Capt. S. W. Hae, of the S.S. "Phumphen" which arrived in port this morning from Saigon with 900 tons of rice, reports to the harbour authorities here that on the first day out, a Chinese desperado jumped overboard in the River Saigon and was lost.

A grocery at Shamshui-po, which opened till late last night to cope with the New Year eve rush, was entered by three robbers, two of whom had revolvers. As usual the foks were driven into a rear cubicle where they were bound and gagged. The robbers escaped with \$152.

Among the departures by the N.Y.K. steamer "Atsuta maru" yesterday were Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Bell, Mr. Marshall Wood, Mr. and Mrs. Middleton Smith, Mr. C. F. L. Grist, Mrs. D. L. Pletty of Shanghai (formerly of Hongkong) was a through passenger to Marseilles, en route to London.

A money-changer's shop located at 229, Queen's Road West has reported to the Police that after leaving the shop at 5.15 p.m. yesterday, carrying a bag containing \$515 in silver subsidiary coins to be delivered to another money-changer's shop in Queen's Road Central, he was attacked by four or five men who relieved him of the money.

To mark their appreciation of his services the members of the Kowloon Football Club, at a very successful dance held in the Kowloon Theatre last night, presented a gold cigarette case, appropriately inscribed, to Mr. W. A. Morgan who is relinquishing the post of hon. secretary and is shortly proceeding to America on leave.

The S.S. "Van Overstraten," from Singapore, had an unusual series of happenings on board during the voyage. On the first day a baby was born to a Portuguese passenger, on the second day a Chinese deck passenger jumped overboard and was drowned, while on the third day two other Chinese passengers died suddenly on board and were buried at sea.

An assistant accountant of 118A Jervois Street has reported that at 2 p.m. yesterday he was instructed to take \$2,000.40 to a printing shop in Des Voeux Road West. He met a classmate, and they both went to Lyndhurst Terrace. Here he went into a pawnshop to redeem some articles but before doing so he handed the money to his classmate. When he came out his classmate had vanished.

Lady Stubbs, accompanied by her baby daughter, returned from England yesterday afternoon by the S.S. "City of Siam." She was met on arrival by H.E. the Governor and his Private Secretary (Mr. Eric Rice), Mrs. Wallington Koo, who is returning from Singapore to rejoin her husband in the North, and also a passenger by the same ship and she was yesterday the guest of His Excellency and Lady Stubbs at Government House.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THIS AFTERNOON'S MEETING.

UNOFFICIALS' VIGOROUS PROTEST.

When the Legislative Council met this afternoon the business on the notice paper included the first reading of a bill dealing with the disposal of German mission property, the second readings of the two new bills introduced last week and the resumption of the committee discussion of the Mui Tsai Bill.

There were present: His Excellency the Governor, Sir R. E. Stubbs, K.C.M.G., H.E. the General Officer Commanding the Troops, Major General Sir J. S. Fowler, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O., The Colonial Secretary, the Hon. Mr. Claud Severn, C.M.G., The Attorney General, the Hon. Mr. J. H. Kemp, C.C., The Secretary for Chinese Affairs, the Hon. Mr. E. R. Hallifax, C.B.E., The Director of Education, the Hon. Mr. E. A. Irving, The Director of Public Works, the Hon. Mr. T. L. Perkins, The Colonial Treasurer, the Hon. Mr. C. M. L. Messer, The Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., The Hon. Mr. A. G. Stephen, The Hon. Mr. Chon Shou-son, The Hon. Mr. Ng Hon Tsz, The Hon. Mr. E. V. D. Parr, Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak, Mr. A. G. M. Fletcher, C.M.G., C.B.E., Clerk of Council.

MUI TSAI QUERIES.

Pursuant to private notice the Hon. Mr. Pollock put the following questions to the Secretary for Chinese Affairs.

1. It is not the fact that, by Chinese custom, a parent of a mui tsai who wishes to get her back from her employer, is bound to repay to such employer the sum of money which such employer has paid to such parent for the transfer of such mui tsai to the employer?

2. Has not such custom been followed by the officials of the Chinese Secretariat in regard to the redemption of a mui tsai by her parent from her employer?

The Secretary for Chinese Affairs replied as follows:—

QUESTION 1.
According to Chinese custom it is the usual but not the invariable custom for some repayment to be made.

QUESTION 2.
The S.C.A. acts solely in the interests of the girl and does not regard himself as being in any way bound by the custom.

The practice of the Secretariat for Chinese Affairs is based on section 32 of Ordinance 4 of 1897, and we never lose sight of the fact that the guardianship of any girl for whose transfer money has been paid is vested in the Secretary for Chinese Affairs, against the parents as much as against other parties. In all cases where mui-tsai are concerned, the care of the girls is entrusted by the S.C.A. to nobody until full enquiry has been made in the Office and in the Po Leung Kuk; and the ruling consideration is always the best interest of the girls. No opposition is offered to a monetary arrangement being reached between the parties themselves, but failure to reach such an arrangement would not be allowed to stand in the way of a decision in the interests of the girl.

NEW BILL.

GERMAN MISSION PROPERTY.

The Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill intituled: an ordinance to provide for the carrying on of the work formerly carried on by certain German societies and persons in the Colony of Hongkong, and to deal with certain property formerly held or administered by, or used in connection with the work of, such societies and persons in the Colony of Hongkong; and to provide for the control of the persons by whom the said work is to be carried on.

The objects and reasons of the new measure were stated *inter alia* to be:—
The bill is necessary in order to carry out the provisions of Article 438 of the Treaty of Versailles. During the war temporary arrangements were made for supervising and carrying on certain parts of the work formerly carried on here by the German missions, but some permanent arrangement is now necessary. The property formerly belonging to the German missions is at present vested in the Custodian of Enemy Property under the Trading with the Enemy Amendment Ordinance, 1918 (Ordinance No. 11 of 1919) (see Notification No. 298, which was published in the Gazette of the 27th June, 1919).

The bill proposes to create a corporation, to whom, all the German mission property is to be transferred, and by whom it is to be administered.

NEW YEAR CRIME.

ARMED ROBBERY EPIDEMICS.

DURING DAYLIGHT HOLD-UP.

The usual epidemic of robberies prior to China New Year is again evident, four robberies having been reported during the last twenty-four hours.

A daring robbery was committed in daylight in the city this morning, the victim being Mr. Hung Hing-fat, the proprietor of the Kowloon Godown Co.'s West Point godown.

On reaching his office No. 2 Centre Street (near Jardine's Wharf) West Point, he noticed that the clock had stopped. When he went to set it, six men entered the room, and covered him before he could turn. The robbers

had entered the office on a pretext of asking for one of the Co's tallymen. The staff in the office could put up no resistance against three revolvers and two daggers and had to submit to being bound and gagged, Chinese wine-cups being used for the latter purpose.

A sum of approximately \$1,600 in notes, shortly to have been deposited in the bank was taken. Mr. Hung was also robbed of a valuable gold watch and chain.

The Police were informed and enquiries are being made; the tallyman whose name was mentioned by the robbers has been detained pending investigation.

An innovation in the efforts by the Police to combat the increase in crime is the sending out of uniformed officers to board trams and search passengers with a view to detecting suspicious characters.

OUR FINANCES.

TO DAY'S COUNCIL MINUTES.

The following financial recommendations by His Excellency the Governor were tabled at this afternoon's meeting of the Legislative Council:—

\$39,998 on account of Miscellaneous Services, Swatow Typhoon Relief Fund.

\$55,500 on account of Public Works Extraordinary, Provision of additional accommodation for the staff at Cape D'Aguilar.

\$12,956 on account of Sanitary Department, Special Expenditure, 1 Steam Launch.

The corporation will consist of 5 persons, and the power of appointing successors to the first members of the corporation is vested in the Governor, the intention being that all members of the corporation shall be of the Protestant faith.

After the Attorney General had explained that the general purpose of the Bill was to provide that any property on the income from or proceeds of it must be used only for the mission to which the property formerly belonged, he moved the first reading.

The Colonial Secretary seconded and motion was carried.

OTHER BILLS PASSED.

The second and third readings of the Bills, to amend further the Medical Registration Ordinance 1894 and to amend the Maintenance Orders Ordinance 1921 were carried on the motion of the Attorney General seconded by the Colonial Secretary.

MUI TSAI BILL CARRIED.

The Council then went into committee for the purpose of considering further the Mui Tsai Bill and a number of amendments proposed by the Attorney General was approved.

The third reading was then moved by the Attorney General and seconded by the Colonial Secretary.

In the name of the unofficial members of the Council, the Hon. Mr. Holyoak entered a vigorous protest against the gross misrepresentation of fact made in the press in public, and in the pulpit at home which he did not hesitate to describe as malicious political propaganda. They were, he said, slur on the name and good government of the Colony; were largely without foundation in fact and were malicious in character.

Supporting the Hon. Mr. Holyoak's remarks the Hon. Mr. Parr told how he had heard a clergyman at home inveighing to his congregation against the Colony for "selling Chinese girls in the public market place."

HUMAN MARSUPIAL.

MAN AND CHICKEN.

NODODY TO TAKE CARE OF IT.

Sub-Inspector Lanigan, when prosecuting a Chinese in Mr. J. R. Wood's court this morning for the larceny of a chicken, described the man's appearance when arrested as having the chicken hidden under his jacket with the head popping out.

Defendant's reply was that he found the chicken wandering underneath a Railway bridge without anybody to care for it. His Worship disbelieved him and sentenced him to one month's imprisonment.

CHINA SPECIE BANK.

THEFT CHARGE WITHDRAWN.

Lui Pui-sun, 25, alias P. S. Lewis, was charged before Mr. J. R. Wood this morning with stealing valuable securities, to wit, Bills of Exchange to the total amount of \$13,553.78 and with stealing money from the China Specie Bank.

Mr. M. K. Lo, for the prosecution, said that after going into the evidence more fully, it appeared to him as being doubtful as to how far they could proceed or offer evidence. In any case, the defendant's relatives, feeling that the money was lost to the bank through his failure to observe proper care in his duties, considered it their moral duty to make good this sum without in any way admitting any criminal liability. They had given an undertaking to pay a certain sum to the bank by way of recognition of these moral duties. He (Mr. Lo) had placed all the facts and circumstances before Mr. G. N. Orme who had been appointed as provisional liquidator for the China Specie Bank and Mr. Orme had authorised him to make an application to his Worship, to allow the complainant bank to withdraw the case.

In reply to the Magistrate, Mr. Orme said that he agreed, subject to defendant giving all necessary assistance to the bank.

His Worship made it necessary order for the case to be withdrawn.

NEW STATUE PIER.

A FINE STRUCTURE.

The new Statue Pier, which has been under construction by Sang Lee, contractors, for nearly a year, has at last taken definite shape and is now completed to its deck level. The final details will be completed during the next two or three weeks, and then it will be ready for the super-structure—towers for which were invited recently, and the contract has just been awarded to the Taike Dock and Engineering Co.

The new pier which is built on the same plan as the Kaiunai Ferry pier, but on a larger scale, measures 100 feet in length from the praya wall to the sea end; but there is an actual pier length of only 160 feet, as ten feet will be taken up by a facade. This will be built entirely of granite, and will be in keeping with the architectural style of the buildings which now form three sides of Statue Square. The pier is 40 feet at its wider end and 28 feet at its narrower parts, and has four runs of iron steps, nine feet wide, running down to the water's edge at low tide. They are located two on either side of the narrow parts of the pier, fore and aft.

The pier is strongly built of reinforced concrete, on a foundation of 14 feet concrete piles, and when completed the deck surface will be paved with a tar carpet three inches thick. The roof which will be made of cement slabs in an iron skeleton, will be supported on steel pillars bolted into the concrete on the sides of the pier. Iron railings will run right round the pier and down the steps to the water level, and the pier will be electrically lighted with bright arc lamps suspended from the roof.

The facade which will screen the roof of the pier, from sight ashore, will be simple in architecture, built entirely of square blocks of granite terminating with a flat turret-like roof, which will give shelter to vehicles loading and unloading passengers or luggage in wet weather. Commencing flush with the line of the praya wall, the facade, which will be built on the pier itself, will have a frontage on Statue Square of 40 feet, the whole width of the pier, in which will be built three arches, which give direct access to the pier at pedestrians. On either side of the facade, will be a wider arch, with a short semi-circular drive leading to it. Along this vehicles can drive on to the pier at one end, pass through the facade, and then emerge on to the road at the other. The only roadwork on the pier will be the landing and the stairs to the pier, to prevent damage to the concrete work, through the jumping of launches when coming alongside.

ELECTROCUTED.

CHINA NEW YEAR TRAGEDY.

A sad tragedy occurred in No. 5, Wai Tak Lane, behind the China Mail office, at 1 o'clock this afternoon, when an 18-year old Chinese youth was electrocuted.

The lad was helping in the general cleaning of the premises for the New Year, and was wiping a lighted electric globe with a wet cloth when the tragedy occurred. His left hand was on the brass socket and with the wet cloth in his right hand acting as conductor, the electric floor on which he was standing completed the circuit. He gave a yell on receiving a sudden shock, then collapsed in a heap, bringing the lamp down with him. Death was instantaneous.

A woman who held the boy round the body to drag him away from the lamp also received a shock and was stunned for a few moments.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The Jazz Quartet will play at the Palace Hotel Dance on Saturday, the 17th, dancing at 9 p.m.

An advertisement appears in this issue relative to tickets of admission to Annual Race Meeting on February 28, March 1, 2 and 3.

For the annual Race Meeting members' badges of admission to the members' enclosure, must be produced. Badges may now be obtained from Messrs. Linstead and Davis.

The closing cruise of the Royal Hongkong Yacht Club will take place on Saturday at the Club House, North Point, and an Interport Rowing Regatta will be held under the auspices of the Club in co-operation with the Victoria Recreation Club.

An announcement appears to the effect that a limited number of tickets are available to members who wish to use the privilege of introducing two non-members to the members' enclosure for the Races. Tickets can be obtained from Messrs. Linstead and Davis at \$10 per day or \$30 for the meeting.

CHINA'S NEEDS.

WHERE AUSTRALIA LAGS.

China's great progress industrially and Australia's opportunities for business in the East were dealt with by Mr. R. H. O'Young, a representative of Wing On & Company, Hongkong, who arrived in Sydney by the Victoria to-day on business, says the Sydney Sun of January 19.

Mr. O'Young, who came from China in his youth for education at Maitland High School, was emphatic that Australia could do business in manufactured woollens and other goods in China.

"China is becoming more and more economically independent," he said, "but we still need woollen goods during the five months of winter."

"I will be making inquiries during my stay in Sydney into this business."

Mr. O'Young stressed that American grocery exporters had a tremendous advantage over the majority of Australians in that line. "The packing is the secret," he said.

"Only one Australian firm has a reputation in China for its biscuits," he said. "Its tins are attractively labelled, the packing is creditable, and the goods satisfactory."

"Of Australian jam the same may be said," remarked Mr. O'Young. "Only one makes it well known. I have generally found its tins true to label. Other Australian jam manufacturers would find it difficult to compete with this firm."

Mr. O'Young then dealt with China's "wonderful progress economically." "We are making our own leather goods, in addition to cotton," he said, "and much of our woollen wear from wool produced in the north of China."

"China's exports are on the upgrade, and big business in ores is ahead. Not so much is going to Australia as many Chinese would like—peanuts and rice are the principal lines."

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENT.

THE ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP.

COMPETITORS are reminded that the 3rd Round and 5th Finals will be played at Fanning on Sunday, 25th February 1923. Starting times will be 9 a.m. and 1.30 p.m. and will be played on the 18th hole. PERCY SMITH, BETH & FLEMING, Secretaries & Treasurers, Hongkong, February 15, 1923.

TO-DAY'S CABLES.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

PUBLIC OPINION WEAPON.

SENATOR BORAH'S SCHEME.

WASHINGTON, February 14.

Senator Borah introduced a resolution in the Senate proposing an international court to settle controversies, all members thereof to be pledged to punish their own war-breeders and war-profits.

Senator Borah explained that the proposal was founded on the opposite principle to that of the League of Nations since the decrees would be enforced by public opinion without arms.

FAIR EAST MAILS STOLEN.

PARIS, February 14.

The police are investigating the theft of a number of mail bags on February 10 from the Marseilles-Paris express conveying mails from the Far East to America. The extent of the robbery has not yet been determined.

COMPANY MEETING.

UNION WATERBOAT CO., LTD.

The 18th ordinary annual meeting of the Union Waterboat Co., Ltd., was held at the office of the Company, Queen's Building, at 11.30 this morning.

Mr. T. G. Weill presided and there were present Messrs. A. O. Lang, C. J. F. Quares van Ufford, W. Adamson, K. H. Kamei (Consulting Committee), A. S. Ellis, W. E. Von Epps, G. R. Edwards (shareholders) and Mr. W. Gray (secretary).

The secretary having read the notice convening the meeting, the Chairman said,

Gentlemen—The report and accounts having been in your hands for the prescribed period, I will, with your permission, take them as read.

The profit on trading for the year amounts to \$38,211.63, to which must be added profit on the sale of shares, interests, dividends, etc. After writing off depreciation on your fleet and setting aside sums for Special Repairs and Insurance Fund as considered necessary by General Managers and approved by the Consulting Committee to the extent of \$37,010.80, there remains a balance of \$33,686, which, with last year's carry forward, leaves the sum of \$39,662.74 to be dealt with at this meeting.

The Superintendent reports that your fleet has been maintained in good order, two of the older boats have been thoroughly overhauled during the year at an expense of about \$24,000. This expense you will recollect was provided for last year in Special Repairs Account. There remains one more boat to be re-conditioned at an estimated cost of \$12,000. This boat is now under repair and Special Repairs Account has been built up to meet this expense by the transfer of \$10,000. The new boat No. 7 was commissioned on the 19th of August and has proved very satisfactory. The remainder of your fleet have been regularly docked and kept in first-class condition out of current revenue. You will notice that \$14,010.80 has been written off the value of Waterboats and this is on the usual scale.

Small repairs were necessitated to the Pipes and Staging at Lo-chi-hok during the typhoon season and as we shall have to remove these when the new Government basin is ready, your Committee have considered it necessary to write down the value by \$2,000.

The demand for Water is still increasing chiefly on account of the numerous large passenger steamers now using this Port and we were called upon last year to supply no less than 540,000 tons, an increase of 30,000 over the previous year. I regret that this increase is not reflected in your profit on working. First of all, as your Chairman warned you last year, the Government had increased the cost of water by 100%. Extra expenses and decreased revenue were occasioned by the strike, while running expenses have been considerably increased owing to advances in crew's wages, etc. Towards the end of the year we were obliged to advance the price of Water to our consumers, but this is not fully reflected in the Accounts for the period under review.

With your increased fleet, it has been considered wise to add to the Insurance Fund which has been brought up to \$40,000, by the addition of \$10,000.

The total carrying capacity of your fleet, allowing for one boat to be off duty, is at present about 1600 tons. Last year our daily supply amounted to approximately 1600 tons, including Sundays and holidays. As the demand is by no means regular, we are frequently called upon to supply up to 3,000 tons per day, which necessitates working the boats and crew night and day making it extremely difficult to keep the boats going so far than up for necessary repairs and repairs. In January this year we supplied over 40,000 tons, which constitutes a record.

NOT NECESSARY.

ARMY FOR FUKIEN.

PEKING, February 14.

The Provincial Assembly at Fukien telegraphically protests against General Sun Chuanfang bringing in a large army to the Province which is unnecessary in view of the cessation of trouble.—Reuter.

HOME FOOTBALL.

Shanghai, Feb. 14.

Playing away last Saturday, Motherwell defeated the Third Lanark in their Scottish League fixture by 2 goals to 1.—Reuter.

LOCAL WEDDING.

AIERS-JONES.

The wedding took place quietly at the Union Church yesterday afternoon of Mr. A. H. Aiers, District Manager of Messrs. Brunner Mond and Co. (China) Ltd., Tientsin, and Miss A. M. Jones of North Wales, who arrived in the Colony by the s.s. "City of Simla." The bride was given away by Mr. N. C. B. Hockey, who also acted as best man. The ceremony was conducted by the Rev. J. Kirk Macdonald, in the presence of a few of the bridegroom's friends and colleagues of the Hongkong office of Messrs. Brunner Mond and Co.

The honeymoon is being spent at Repulse Bay. Mr. and Mrs. Aiers will be leaving for North China in the near future.

Any delay in our service is detrimental to our reputation and your Committee have approved the purchase of another new boat which has been put in hand and will be commissioned about the middle of the year. I trust our policy in this respect will meet with your approval.

I was asked recently by a Shareholder why we considered it necessary to build up such a large Investment Fluctuation Account and as there may be some misunderstanding on this point, I would explain that it has always been the practice of this Company to show investments at their market value, writing off any appreciation to Investment Fluctuation Account, so that this account reflects the enhanced value of your securities since date of purchase. You will I am sure agree that this cannot be distributed as profit unless actually realized, and it might be better in future to follow the practice adopted by other Companies of showing investments at book value, inserting market value in a footnote.

I do not think there is anything in the Account or Report calling for further comment from me. I consider we are to be congratulated on continuing to supply the essential needs of regular passengers during the strike at usual prices, and thanks are due to our European Staff and to the splendid work done by numerous volunteers who assisted in manning the boats. Some of our competitors were charging three or four times normal prices.

After making the provisions enumerated above, we have, as I have said, the sum of \$39,662.74 to be dealt with, and your Committee recommend the payment of a dividend of \$1.25 per share, absorbing \$34,668.75, leaving a balance of \$5,000.00 to carry forward to new Account.

Before moving the adoption of the accounts and report, I shall be glad to answer any questions to the best of my ability.

Mr. A. S. Ellis seconded and the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. O. Bernard Brown, A.I.A., was unanimously re-elected auditor on the proposal of Mr. Adamson, seconded by Mr. Van Ufford.

The meeting terminated with the announcement that dividend warrants were ready for issue.

ELOPEMENT ENDS ABRUPTLY.

"DIDN'T LIKE HIS FAMILY."

A Chinese chauffeur previously in the employ of Mr. Ho Cheuk appeared before Mr. R. E. Lindsell at the Magistrate's yesterday afternoon, charged with taking away a girl under the age of twenty-one years, without the permission of her guardian, and further with harbouring.

Mr. A. H. Wood, of the S.O.A., prosecuted. Defendant was represented by Mr. R. E. A. Webster.

Outlining the facts of the case, Mr. Wood said that the girl, whose age was sixteen was living at the house of Mr. Ho Cheuk, where defendant had been employed. She was not a servant, but lived as one of the family, also attending school. The defendant left his employment and one morning he met the girl in the Botanical Gardens on her way to school. He proposed that she should go away and live with him and she agreed. They arranged to meet at the Motor Car Drivers' Guild premises on January 23, and the final decision was made. She accompanied him to Kowloon, the two going to stay with defendant's family at 98 Park Street, where the man's wife was stopping. They stayed there together for three days and nights when the girl changed her mind and expressed a wish to return to Hongkong. Defendant escorted her across the ferry, but left her at the pier on the Victoria side. The girl went to an aunt in Cochrane Street and in consequence of information given by her, defendant was arrested.

His grandmother had been a nurse in Mr. Ho's employment and Mr. Ho Cheuk had permitted the girl to be brought up with his family. Her grandmother was her actual guardian.

Evidence was given by Mr. Ho and the girl's grandmother, corroborating Mr. Wood's statement.

In the box, the girl admitted staying with the defendant for three days and sleeping with him for three nights, adding that she left him because she disliked the look of his family. She alleged that he first made the suggestion. While he was still in Mr. Ho's employ, he made her write three letters addressed to him asking him to marry her.

The case was adjourned till Monday.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE LI FAT STEAMSHIP CO., LTD. (In Liquidation)

NOTICE.

A MEETING of the Creditors of the Company will be held on the 3rd day of March 1923, at 12 o'clock at the registered office of the Company, No. 42 Des Voeux Road (West), Victoria, Hongkong, pursuant to the provisions of Section 181 of the Companies Ordinance 1911.

At this meeting the creditors will be asked to determine whether an application shall be made to the Court for the Appointment of any person as Liquidator in the place of or jointly with myself the Liquidator appointed by the Company or for the appointment of a Committee of inspection.

Dated the 15th day of February, 1923.

LAI KWOK KIT, Liquidator.

THE LI FAT STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

CLOSING CRUISE OF THE SEASON AND INTERPORT REGATTA.

IN connection with the YACHTING SEASON 1922-1923, it has been arranged that the CLOSING CRUISE will take place at the CLUB HOUSE, North Point, on SATURDAY 17th March, and in conjunction therewith and INTERPORT REGATTA will be held under the auspices of the above Club co-operating with the Victoria Recreation Club.

D. K. BLAIR, Vice-Commodore.

Hongkong, February 15, 1923.

DANCING.

PALACE HOTEL, KOWLOON.

The Popular JAZZ QUARTET

H.M.S. "TITANIA"

will play at the above Hotel on SATURDAY 17th DANCING 8 P.M.

A Party of 1000, that Chamberlain's Onga Rammy has been serving since 1880, and the popularity of this wine is increasing every year. It is a fine wine and is recommended by all Chemists and Druggists.

TO-DAY'S NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

RACE MEETING, 1923.

FEBRUARY 28th & MARCH 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

TICKETS OF ADMISSION to the PUBLIC ENCLOSURE may be obtained from Messrs. KELLY & WALSH or at the Gate. Price \$3.—per day. SOLDIERS AND SAILORS in uniform \$1.—per day. No one admitted without a Ticket to be shown to the Ticket Inspector at the Gate.

H. BIRKETT, Clerk of the Course.

Hongkong, February 15, 1923.

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

MEMBERS' BADGES OF ADMISSION TO THE MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE are now ready and may be obtained from Messrs. LINDSAY & DAVIS, Alexandra Buildings. ALL BADGES MUST BE PRODUCED TO GAIN ADMISSION.

H. BIRKETT, Clerk of the Course.

Hongkong, February 15, 1923.

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

MEMBERS have the privilege of introducing two non-members to the MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE. A limited number of tickets are available and may be obtained from Messrs. LINDSAY & DAVIS, Alexandra Buildings on or before Tuesday, February 27th. Price \$10.00 per day or \$30.00 for the Meeting.

H. BIRKETT, Clerk of the Course.

Hongkong, February 15, 1923.

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The pleasant purgative effect experienced after taking Chamberlain's Tablets and the healthy condition of body and mind to which they contribute, makes one feel that living is worth while. For sale by all Chemists and Druggists.

THE RACES!

Syndicate is prepared to purchase for cash, from drawers of ponies in the different sweepstakes on the Hongkong Derby, part, or whole chances.

Representative will be at Room 21, Carlton Hotel up to 10 a.m. on the morning of the race.

Telegraph Address:

CARLTON HONGKONG.

Phone 315.

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NOTICES.

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3185	Kitten on the Keys	...	Fox-Trot.
	Forget-me not	...	" "
3180	Mr. Sweet Hortense	...	" "
	Phi-Phi	...	" "
3191	Mr. Miery	...	ONE STEP.
	The Crazy Toodle	...	Fox-Trot.
3193	The Savoy Lancers	Figure 1	GUARDS BAND.
	" " " "	2	" "
3194	" " " "	3 & 4	" "
	" " " "	" "	" "
3195	Schottische: Hop-Scotch	...	GUARDS BAND.
	Polka: See Me Dance	...	" "

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FOOTBALL.**THE INTERPORT GAME.****HONGKONG v. SHANGHAI.**

The Interport football match Hongkong v. Shanghai will be played on the Club ground, Happy Valley, at 4 p.m. on Saturday the 17th.

The following will represent Shanghai:—Remedios, Turner and Quail; Crawford, Meas, and Ollendress; Dailley, Phillips, Goldmar, Coulcher and Wilson.

Reserves:—Johannson, Knight and McDonald.

The following is the Hongkong Team:—Swan, Gerrard and Chan So; Hudson, Stevens and Leung; Yik Tong, Chu Kwo ng Yui, Forsyth, Begg, Valentine and Chan Kwong In.

Reserves:—Ip Ka, Wynne and Newton.

Referee:—Mr. F. Williams. Linesmen:—Messrs W. E. Hollands and F. Smith.

The Shanghai team will play in white and the Hongkong team in blue.

A record crowd is expected to be present at this game and special arrangements have been made to cope with them. Extra seating accommodation has been erected and a certain number of the seats have been reserved and can be booked at Montrose.

Booking closes at 5 p.m. to-day. H. E. The Governor and H. E. The General have intimated their intention of being present at the match and the fans of the King's Regiment will play before the match and during the interval.

A good game is to be expected. Shanghai are setting down a very strong team, and the local boys will have all their wits cut out to win, in any case they can be relied upon to give a good account of themselves, and if they should be beaten (which we hope they will not) they will be disgraced. Following the match, the interport teams will be entertained to dinner at the Hong Kong Hotel.

On Tuesday, the visitors will be taken round the New Territories in motor cars and will stop for a time at Fanling to see the Interport golf.

On Wednesday Shanghai will meet a team representing the United Services on the Club ground at 4.30 p.m. Mr. F. Smith will have charge of this game and Messrs Williams and Hollands will be the linesmen.

For this game the prices will be one dollar covered stand, and fifty cents the uncovered stand; there will be no booking. In the evening the visitors will be entertained by the Football Association at Repulse Bay. Further arrangements will depend on the length of stay of the visitors.

On Sunday the Shanghai people will be taken for a motor ride round the Island stopping at Repulse Bay for tea.

On Monday at 4.50 p.m. a team from the South China Athletic will meet the Shanghai team on the Club ground kick off at 4.30 p.m. Mr. Hollands will have charge of the game, and Messrs Smith and Williams will be the linesmen. In the evening the Shanghai team will be entertained to dinner at the Yee Wo Restaurant, West Point, by the South China Athletic Association.

YIMMY'S GAMES.
Owing to the Interport game on Saturday the following matches will be played to-morrow (Friday).

SHIELD COMPETITION.
SEMI-FINALS.
JUNIOR SECTION.
King's v. R.G.A. Club ground. Kick off at 2.45 p.m.

SENIOR SECTION.
Kowloon v. Durban, Club ground. Kick off at 4.15 p.m.

The Junior game will be a fast one with I think the Regiment qualifying for the final.

Kowloon will be out to win to-morrow and the Durban will have to play all they know if they want to get into the final. I rather fancy however they will win their opponents down and win by a very narrow margin. Extra time will be played if a decision is not arrived at full time.

OFFICIALS.

BRONZE AGE CLOAK.**OLDEST GARMENT DISCOVERED IN EUROPE.**

Investigations made on the origin of a garment discovered by post-catchers in Gerum Fen, near Skara, Sweden, show that it is one of the oldest in Europe.

It was found only a few feet under the surface of the peat, and the preserving qualities of the peat have kept it intact since the Bronze Age, about 1,000 years before the Christian era.

Professor Montelius, who died recently, made a careful examination of the cloak, and Professor Kossin also examined it. Further confirmation of the authenticity of its age was forthcoming from Dr. L. Von Post, the State Geologist of Sweden.

The garment has the appearance of a cloak to be hung over the shoulders, and it does not look very archaic when compared with more modern wear. It is woven by hand from wool.

Inquiries at the Bronze Age department of the British Museum revealed the fact that pieces of material hand-woven in the same period are tabulated here.

"They were taken from the Swiss lake dwellings," said an official "and there is no reason why this find should not be perfectly genuine."

"It is probable that the peat areas of Ireland cover and preserve much that would throw a great deal of light upon the little-known race of the Bronze Age period of northern Europe."

Of the matches played last Saturday, the most interesting was the victory of Kowloon, last year's champions, over the redoubtable H.K.C.C. who, however, did not field their strongest team. It is some time ago since I ventured to predict that had luck could not do the Kowloonites continually and now both the senior and junior teams can claim a league win.

The first eleven batting was not convincing but judicious changes in the bowling won the match. On the Club ground, the second eleven gave an anguished display and were overwhelmed in a "friendly." That five batsmen out of eight got into the thirties for the I.R.C. is further evidence of the combined batting strength of the team. Four of these players' names appear in the batting averages, the other not having played in the requisite number of games. However, I am still of the opinion that the I.R.C. take too long over their innings, at a risk of having to draw the match, and their win against the Navy was due to the bowlers, of whom A. de Arcelli and J. S. Curran, the opening pair, have at last found their form.

Although the University beat Civil Service, the team still appears to be one with a few brilliant players and a rather pronounced tail. Match after match, one notices that the eleven is carried by Rummah, Quick, Balhetchet and to a lesser extent, the skipper T. E. Yeoh. This is a disconcerting factor—in spite of their success—as one day they might be out of form or unable to play, which would be fatal especially at a critical juncture. Winning by thirty runs, the Civil Service 2nd XI. made their highest score this season. Without Ong the "Varsity" junior bowling appeared harmless. But for H. Y. Lam's 89, the "Varsity" batting was weak and it seems as if those who, at the annual meeting in the Union, were against running a second eleven, are right. Still defeats ought not to deter the team as long as the game is played for the sake of playing, regardless of results. By again beating the Sappers by a substantial margin the I.R.C. 2nd XI. have obtained maximum points for the two games. The alternate weekly success of the bowlers, F. M. Arculli and H. D. Rummah is particularly pleasing.

Turning to the averages, it will be noticed that there is a reshuffling of the names, this being due to nearly all the leading players being engaged. Owen Hughes now has the largest aggregate in addition to heading the senior batting list, displacing A. Rummah by six runs with two innings less. Olxton and Webster, who are second and third in the averages have only played two innings each. The next nine batsmen have participated in at least four innings. Olxton has left the Colony and his name will automatically disappear when the Club plays their next match. In the junior batting list, H. D. Rummah is the only player to have more than 200 runs. H. Y. Lam, who made an

other big score remains in the first place. J. Akker, with a total of 55 runs made in five attempts occupies second place by virtue of four "not-outs."

A poor analysis last week has displaced Balhetchet from the top of the bowling list, a position he has occupied since the beginning of the season. Each of the three bowlers above him have only bowled in two games and their records at present are not as creditable as Balhetchet's. A. A. Rummah has joined the select list of those who have taken 20 wickets. As he also has the second highest batting aggregate, he is, according to results, the best all rounder to date. Capt. Davies, who has left the Colony is the only other player in the First League to make over 200 runs and take over 20 wickets. In the second league, H. D. Rummah has also achieved the double feat. There is very little change in the junior bowling list. C. Barnshaw has, for the present, dropped out of the race for most wickets, having only 23 against 29 by F. M. Arculli and Townsend and 28 by H. D. Rummah. Both bowling lists are still noteworthy for the absence of a good many of the leading bowlers' names.

A notice has been received to the effect that as the United Services are unable to raise a team for the holiday fixture, the Bachelors have challenged the married members of the Hongkong Cricket Club to a two-day fixture. Two interesting teams have been chosen and a good game will be seen. Early in the season, I pointed out our lack of representative cricket and suggested a "match Hongkong." The Rest to keep an interport team more or less in being. It seems that an opportunity for putting the suggestion to the test has presented itself, but the short notice of the Services being unable to raise a team has probably prevented it from being carried out. According to the fixtures to hand, three matches are down for decision during the holidays these being:—

On Friday, at the C.R.C. ground, N. S. Kitchell's XI. v. A. de Arculli's XI.

On Saturday, University v. Infantry, and Kowloon 2nd XI. v. Police, both league games.

"MARRIED" v. "SINGLE."

The following teams have been selected for a "Married" v. "Single" match on the Club ground, on Friday and Saturday, commencing each day at 11 a.m.:—

Married: R. Hancock (capt.), T. E. Pearce, E. B. Reed, G. R. Sayer, H. E. Hollands, Capt. E. G. Spinks, L. P. McNicol, W. Gallo-way, Capt. Quinlan, M. E. F. Airey and G. A. Chadwick.

Single: L. J. Davies, R. E. A. Webster, H. Owen Hughes, F. H. Farthing, D. E. G. Nicholson, G. H. Piercy, F. Baker, E. Phillipson, E. W. Hamilton, Lieut. Sharp and R. H. Wild.

LEAGUE BATTING AVERAGES.

FIRST LEAGUE.

Owen Hughes (H.) 4 279 128*139.50
Claxton (H.) 2 121 87 60.50
Webster (H.) 2 93 78 46.50
A. A. Rummah (U.) 6 273 70 45.50
Com. Wood (N.) 6 192 68* 38.60
Quick (U.) 6 192 81* 38.40
E. O. Fincher (G.S.) 4 108 65* 30.00
S. H. Lemall (I.R.) 6 178 65* 35.60
Davies (R.A.) 6 203 75 33.85
Sayer (C.S.) 4 135 49 33.75
A. H. Madar (I.R.) 6 98 42* 32.63
S. D. Lemall (I.R.) 6 150 51* 32.00
Sutherland (G.S.) 2 62 66 31.00
Bacon (Inf.) 2 62 39 31.00
M. E. Evans (N.) 6 183 61 30.50
Piercy (H.) 2 30 30* 30.00
Olliver (R.A.) 7 205 47 29.29
Capt. Spinks (K.) 6 186 40* 27.20
T. O. Yeow (U.) 3 28 20* 26.00
Benson (K.) 6 129 48 25.80
U. Omar (Cr.) 3 78 48 24.33
T. Grimes (Cr.) 3 70 51 23.33
A. E. Wood (G.S.) 4 70 53* 23.33
A. H. Rummah (I.R.) 5 116 38 23.20
Farrell (N.) 7 162 40 23.14
Chester (R.A.) 7 137 31* 22.63
Hannay (Inf.) 2 43 30 21.00
O. Lemall (I.R.) 3 62 32 20.33
Pearce (H.) 3 50 26 20.00

SECOND LEAGUE.

H. Y. Lam (U.) 3 166 80 84.50
J. Akker (I.R.) 5 56 31* 56.00
H. D. Rummah (I.R.) 7 317 70* 56.17
Alexander (P.) 6 176 68 36.20
D. Rummah (I.R.) 6 188 59* 39.60
Petham (K.) 5 127 57* 31.75
Hammond (B.E.) 7 171 100* 24.50
Peterson (U.) 4 114 94 28.50
Wahap (I.R.) 5 80 39 26.66
Redpath (I.R.) 6 128 65 26.33
E. J. Edwards (K.) 7 157 35 29.27
Pearson (R.E.) 6 139 40 23.00
O. W. Lam (U.) 5 94 43 21.55
R. Barnshaw (P.) 6 100 40 20.00

THIRD LEAGUE.

S. H. Ong (U.) 9 6 00
H. D. Rummah (I.R.) 25 7.82
F. M. Arculli (I.R.) 29 8.03
O. Barnshaw (P.) 25 8.30
Owen (G.S.) 15 10.15
Townsend (B.E.) 29 10.17
Joseph (B.E.) 19 10.87
Shenton (K.) 8 11.12
Gardner (G.S.) 15 11.28
O. W. Lam (U.) 12 11.50
Peterson (U.) 14 11.71
Watts (P.) 11 11.75
Pearson (R.E.) 11 11.82

FOURTH LEAGUE.

S. H. Ong (U.) 9 6.00
H. D. Rummah (I.R.) 25 7.82
F. M. Arculli (I.R.) 29 8.03
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CHECKET.**NOTES AND COMMENT.****LEAGUE AVERAGES.**

The half-way stage in the season has been passed; the number of teams in the running for honours has been narrowed down but interest has not abated. Thanks to Kowloon defeating the Club, the University, by their defeat of Civil Service last Saturday, are now firmly established at the head of the league table with a commanding lead. Their record this season of six consecutive league victories is the best they have ever had and they should be congratulated on the wonderful improvement. However, both the Club and Civil Service, are still within striking distance. Of their remaining fixtures, the games with Infantry and Indians are to be played at Pokfulam. Their last league match of the season is with the H.K.C.C. on the Club ground.

To lose the junior championship, the I.R.C. second eleven will have to be beaten in both their remaining fixtures and the University juniors must win their six remaining games. The other teams' chances have disappeared but there will be keen competition for the runner-up position. All-round ability coupled with a pair of excellent bowlers have brought success to the Indian team. Constant practice has resulted in improvement by leaps and bounds and no surprise will be occasioned when several of the younger players find places in representative cricket. A. A. Rummah is, I believe, the first Indian player to represent Hongkong in an interport match, having played at Shanghai in 1921. He and one or two others also participated in the interport trials here last year but none of them was picked. It is up to the budding enthusiasts to apply themselves further and their names in local cricketing records will be assured.

Of the matches played last Saturday, the most interesting was the victory of Kowloon, last year's champions, over the redoubtable H.K.C.C. who, however, did not field their strongest team. It is some time ago since I ventured to predict that had luck could not do the Kowloonites continually and now both the senior and junior teams can claim a league win.

The first eleven batting was not convincing but judicious changes in the bowling won the match. On the Club ground, the second eleven gave an anguished display and were overwhelmed in a "friendly." That five batsmen out of eight got into the thirties for the I.R.C. is further evidence of the combined batting strength of the team. Four of these players' names appear in the batting averages, the other not having played in the requisite number of games. However, I am still of the opinion that the I.R.C. take too long over their innings, at a risk of having to draw the match, and their win against the Navy was due to the bowlers, of whom A. de Arculli and J. S. Curran, the opening pair, have at last found their form.

Although the University beat Civil Service, the team still appears to be one with a few brilliant players and a rather pronounced tail. Match after match, one notices that the eleven is carried by Rummah, Quick, Balhetchet and to a lesser extent, the skipper T. E. Yeoh. This is a disconcerting factor—in spite of their success—as one day they might be out of form or unable to play, which would be fatal especially at a critical juncture. Winning by thirty runs, the Civil Service 2nd XI. made their highest score this season. Without Ong the "Varsity" junior bowling appeared harmless. But for H. Y. Lam's 89, the "Varsity" batting was weak and it seems as if those who, at the annual meeting in the Union, were against running a second eleven, are right. Still defeats ought not to deter the team as long as the game is played for the sake of playing, regardless of results. By again beating the Sappers by a substantial margin the I.R.C. 2nd XI. have obtained maximum points for the two games. The alternate weekly success of the bowlers, F. M. Arculli and H. D. Rummah is particularly pleasing.

Turning to the averages, it will be noticed that there is a reshuffling of the names, this being due to nearly all the leading players being engaged. Owen Hughes now has the largest aggregate in addition to heading the senior batting list, displacing A. Rummah by six runs with two innings less. Olxton and Webster, who are second and third in the averages have only played two innings each. The next nine batsmen have participated in at least four innings. Olxton has left the Colony and his name will automatically disappear when the Club plays their next match. In the junior batting list, H. D. Rummah is the only player to have more than 200 runs. H. Y. Lam, who made an

other big score remains in the first place. J. Akker, with a total of 55 runs made in five attempts occupies second place by virtue of four "not-outs."

A poor analysis last week has displaced Balhetchet from the top of the bowling list, a position he has occupied since the beginning of the season. Each of the three bowlers above him have only bowled in two games and their records at present are not as creditable as Balhetchet's. A. A. Rummah has joined the select list of those who have taken 20 wickets. As he also has the second highest batting aggregate, he is, according to results, the best all rounder to date. Capt. Davies, who has left the Colony is the only other player in the First League to make over 200 runs and take over 20 wickets. In the second league, H. D. Rummah has also achieved the double feat. There is very little change in the junior bowling list. C. Barnshaw has, for the present, dropped out of the race for most wickets, having only 23 against 29 by F. M. Arculli and Townsend and 28 by H. D. Rummah. Both bowling lists are still noteworthy for the absence of a good many of the leading bowlers' names.

A notice has been received to the effect that as the United Services are unable to raise a team for the holiday fixture, the Bachelors have challenged the married members of the Hongkong Cricket Club to a two-day fixture. Two interesting teams have been chosen and a good game will be seen. Early in the season, I pointed out our lack of representative cricket and suggested a "match Hongkong." The Rest to keep an interport team more or less in being. It seems that an opportunity for putting the suggestion to the test has presented itself, but the short notice of the Services being unable to raise a team has probably prevented it from being carried out. According to the fixtures to hand, three matches are down for decision during the holidays these being:—

On Friday, at the C.R.C. ground, N. S. Kitchell's XI. v. A. de Arculli's XI.

On Saturday, University v. Infantry, and Kowloon 2nd XI. v. Police, both league games.

"MARRIED" v. "SINGLE."

The following teams have been selected for a "Married" v. "Single" match on the Club ground, on Friday and Saturday, commencing each day at 11 a.m.:—

Married: R. Hancock (capt.), T. E. Pearce, E. B. Reed, G. R. Sayer, H. E. Hollands, Capt. E. G. Spinks, L. P. McNicol, W. Gallo-way, Capt. Quinlan, M. E. F. Airey and G. A. Chadwick.

Single: L. J. Davies, R. E. A. Webster, H. Owen Hughes, F. H. Farthing, D. E. G. Nicholson, G. H. Piercy, F. Baker, E. Phillipson, E. W. Hamilton, Lieut. Sharp and R. H. Wild.

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S. H. Lemall (I.R.) 6 178 65* 35.60
Davies (R.A.) 6 203 75 33.85
Sayer (C.S.) 4 135 49 33.75
A. H. Madar (I.R.) 6 98 42* 32.63
S. D. Lemall (I.R.) 6 150 51* 32.00
Sutherland (G.S.) 2 62 66 31.00
Bacon (Inf.) 2 62 39 31.00
M. E. Evans (N.) 6 183 61 30.50
Piercy (H.) 2 30 30* 30.00
Olliver (R.A.) 7 205 47 29.29
Capt. Spinks (K.) 6 186 40* 27.20
T. O. Yeow (U.) 3 28 20* 26.00
Benson (K.) 6 129 48 25.80
U. Omar (Cr.) 3 78 48 24.33
T. Grimes (Cr.) 3 70 51 23.33
A. E. Wood (G.S.) 4 70 53* 23.33
A. H. Rummah (I.R.) 5 116 38 23.20
Farrell (N.) 7 162 40 23.14
Chester (R.A.) 7 137 31* 22.63
Hannay (Inf.) 2 43 30 21.00
O. Lemall (I.R.) 3 62 32 20.33
Pearce (H.) 3 50 26 20.00

SECOND LEAGUE.

H. Y. Lam (U.) 3 166 80 84.50
J. Akker (I.R.) 5 56 31* 56.00
H. D. Rummah (I.R.) 7 317 70* 56.17
Alexander (P.) 6 176 68 36.20
D. Rummah (I.R.) 6 188 59* 39.60
Petham (K.) 5 127 57* 31.75
Hammond (B.E.) 7 171 100* 24.50
Peterson (U.) 4 114 94 28.50
Wahap (I.R.) 5 80 39 26.66
Redpath (I.R.) 6 128 65 26.33
E. J. Edwards (K.) 7 157 35 29.27
Pearson (R.E.) 6 139 40 23.00
O. W. Lam (U.) 5 94 43 21.55
R. Barnshaw (P.) 6 100 40 20.00

THIRD LEAGUE.

S. H. Ong (U.) 9 6 00
H. D. Rummah (I.R.) 25 7.82
F. M. Arculli (I.R.) 29 8.03
O. Barnshaw (P.) 25 8.30
Owen (G.S.) 15 10.15
Townsend (B.E.) 29 10.17
Joseph (B.E.) 19 10.87
Shenton (K.) 8 11.12
Gardner (G.S.) 15 11.28
O. W. Lam (U.) 12 11.50
Peterson (U.) 14 11.71
Watts (P.) 11 11.75
Pearson (R.E.) 11 11.82

FOURTH LEAGUE.

S. H. Ong (U.) 9 6.00
H. D. Rummah (I.R.) 25 7.82
F. M. Arculli (I.R.) 29 8.03
O. Barnshaw (P.) 25 8.30
Owen (G.S.) 15 10.15
Townsend (B.E.) 29 10.17
Joseph (B.E.) 19 10.87
Shenton (K.) 8 11.12
Gardner (G.S.) 15 11.28
O. W. Lam (U.) 12 11.50
Peterson (U.) 14 11.71
Watts (P.) 11 11.75
Pearson (R.E.) 11 11.82

FIFTH LEAGUE.

S. H. Ong (U.) 9 6.00
H. D. Rummah (I.R.) 25 7.82
F. M. Arculli (I.R.) 29 8.03
O. Barnshaw (P.) 25 8.30
Owen (G.S.) 15 10.15
Townsend (B.E.) 29 10.17
Joseph (B.E.) 19 10.87
Shenton (K.) 8 11.12
Gardner (G.S.) 15 11.28
O. W. Lam (U.) 12 11.50
Peterson (U.) 14 11.71
Watts (P.) 11 11.75
Pearson (R.E.) 11 11.82

SIXTH LEAGUE.

S. H. Ong (U.) 9 6.00
H. D. Rummah (I.R.) 25 7.82
F. M. Arculli (I.R.) 29 8.03
O. Barnshaw (P.) 25 8.30
Owen (G.S.) 15 10.15
Townsend (B.E.) 29 10.17
Joseph (B.E.) 19 10.87
Shenton (K.) 8 11.12
Gardner (G.S.) 15 11.28
O. W. Lam (U.) 12 11.50
Peterson (U.) 14 11.71
Watts (P.) 11 11.75
Pearson (R.E.) 11 11.82

SEVENTH LEAGUE.

S. H. Ong (U.) 9 6.00
H. D. Rummah (I.R.) 25 7.82
F. M. Arculli (I.R.) 29 8.03
O. Barnshaw (P.) 25 8.30
Owen (G.S.) 15 10.15
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Gardner (G.S.) 15 11.28
O. W. Lam (U.) 12 11.50
Peterson (U.) 14 11.71
Watts (P.) 11 11.75
Pearson (R.E.) 11 11.82

EIGHTH LEAGUE.

S. H. Ong (U.) 9 6.00
H. D. Rummah (I.R.) 25 7.82
F. M. Arculli (I.R.) 29 8.03
O. Barnshaw (P.) 25 8.30
Owen (G.S.) 15 10.15
Townsend (B.E.) 29 10.17
Joseph (B.E.) 19 10.87
Shenton (K.) 8 11.12
Gardner (G.S.) 15 11.28
O. W. Lam (U.) 12 11.50
Peterson (U.) 14 11.71
Watts (P.) 11 11.75
Pearson (R.E.) 11 11.82

HOUSING PROBLEM.**PUBLIC MEETING TO BE HELD.**

A public meeting is being convened by the Constitutional Reform Association for 5.30 p.m. on Friday, the 23rd inst., at the City Hall, to discuss the Housing Problem. The following resolutions will be proposed for submission to the Government:—

1.—That the Housing Problem is most the serious problem confronting the local Administration; it lies at the root of the high cost of living, it explains in large measure the constantly increasing rate of wages, and it constitutes a perpetual menace to the health and well-being of the community.

2.—That the Housing Problem can only be solved in accordance with the ordinary economic law of supply and demand.

3.—That the aim of the Government should be to encourage house-building both by corporations and private individuals by the following, amongst other, methods:—

(i) Opening up suitable areas (i.e., areas containing a number of sites in close proximity to one another requiring a minimum expenditure upon preparation) by providing cheap and rapid means of access (e.g., by the construction of long-promised tramways to Wanchai Gap, to the south side of the Island via Wong Nei Cheong Gap, and through the Kowloon peninsula).

(ii) Levelling extensive areas for building purposes, where the configuration of the land shows that course to be expedient, and planning settlements before the lots are offered for sale to the public on lines similar to those followed by private enterprise at Kowloon Tong.

4.—That in considering the provision of means of transit the Government should follow the example set by municipal bodies at home and give greater weight to the convenience of the public than to the immediate financial aspect, especially as all land in this Colony is the property of the Crown, which therefore profits directly by its development

THE FILMS

PROGRAMME FEATURES.

TO-NIGHT.

Coronet Theatre.—"The Prodigal Judge."

World Theatre.—Frank Mayo in "Doctor Jim."

THE CINEMA.

AND THE PURITAN.

It was Mr. E. V. Lucas who once said that the cinema should be a policeman who happened to see bending over as he walked out of a cinema hall after watching a Charlie Chaplin film. This is probably the most important thing that Mr. E. V. Lucas ever said. It is, as far as I know, writes Clarendon Williamson in *The Outlook*, the only recorded instance of a person with criminal instincts going out of his way to make a free confession that those instincts were aroused by the cinema.

We may discount confessions made before magistrates. When a hungry child steals a loaf of bread from a baker's shop he knows that it is useless to tell the magistrate that he took it because he was hungry. Apparently magistrates do not think like that. They ask themselves, "How were this child's criminal instincts aroused? Has he been to see a film about Dick Turpin, or has he been reading one of those trashy novelettes?" They seem to take it for granted that either literature or the cinema is to blame, and being fair-minded men, they obviously regret their inability to put the playwrights and novelists in the dock instead of their wretched dupes. The explanation that the lad was hungry is too common place; it fails to touch the magical imagination; anyhow it is never accepted as an excuse. So the criminal—who is also not without imagination—takes to innocent tales about birth, with their inevitable disillusionment, are understood to be utterly out of fashion. Yet it is considered unsafe to allow children to witness one of those intolerably dreary, sentimental "love dramas," which even grown-ups cannot understand, because it may "put ideas into their heads." What it actually does is to send them to sleep, just as a modern novel would. It is not persons under sixteen, but persons over—and especially just over—that age who may suffer moral damage from the representation of sex problems on the cinema. They are interested; sometimes too much interested. Children are not.

If the charge against the cinema was that of stupidity; if it were alleged that while they were obviously incapable of influencing a child's actions they might well have a bad effect on his taste by accustoming him to sloppy sentimentality, vulgar music, and an obscure and pompous style in prose, one could understand that. But that they should be supposed to be any more capable than the penny

ment—and there is something to be said for it—is that the thing seen will have more influence than the thing which is only read. The old idea of the child's exuberant imagination which could make a "living picture" of the dullest fairy tale has been thrown overboard—rightly, I think. It is held that an ordinarily cautious youth might hesitate to try and emulate Dickens's "Artful Dodger" until he saw him actually fooling the police on the cinema.

But what about the theatre? That is the real flaw in the argument. What about plays, like *Raffles*? What about *The Beggar's Opera*? And, above all, what about the Punch and Judy Show? Are we seriously asked to believe that children who are so powerfully affected by a representation of the petty thefts of "the Artful Dodger" as to embark forthwith upon a career of crime, will be uncomminated after witnessing Mr. Punch's horrible series of murders, ending with that of the policeman who comes to arrest him? It is asking too much of our credulity. And if it be argued that Mr. Punch meets his deserts in the end, the answer is: "So does 'the Artful Dodger'; so does Fagin." Virtue always triumphs on the cinema, as it always did in the old-fashioned melodrama and the penny dreadful.

The question of the film dealing with the relations between the sexes is not quite so simple. I shall not adopt the cynical argument that there is nothing to prevent young people from finding out about these matters if they have the mind to; that a study of the daily Press will supply them with all the information they require; and that if schoolboys are still innocent it is simply because schoolboys are bored by the subject.

What really is astonishing is that the County Council should have ignored the strong modern tendency towards greater frankness in these matters. Books are appearing at the rate of about one a month, written by distinguished lady doctors, urging that children should be acquainted with the main facts of life before they leave the nursery. No champion appears on the other side. The old Victorian fairy tales about birth, with their inevitable disillusionment, are understood to be utterly out of fashion. Yet it is considered unsafe to allow children to witness one of those intolerably dreary, sentimental "love dramas," which even grown-ups cannot understand, because it may "put ideas into their heads." What it actually does is to send them to sleep, just as a modern novel would. It is not persons under sixteen, but persons over—and especially just over—that age who may suffer moral damage from the representation of sex problems on the cinema. They are interested; sometimes too much interested. Children are not.

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Literature leaves the Court without a stain on its character. *Other Times* may be printed in cheap editions and sold to all and sundry, but a cinematographic representation of Fagin's thieves' kitchen has been banned for everybody under sixteen years of age. The argu-

dreadful and the melodrama of making saints or sinners is a theory that still remains to be proved.

The whole agitation against the cinema is unreasonable, but it would be silly to expect reason from the modern Punitan. Logio is hateful to him. He will treat adults and children as having precisely the same kind of minds for purposes of the theatre, and will draw a hard and fast distinction between them for purposes of the cinema; he will arrest a man for doing in Hyde Park what would arouse no comment in the street outside; he will prohibit the use of alcohol and glorify that of tanning; he draws his line anywhere, at random, without logic or meaning, because he does not really want to draw the line at all. Like his seventeenth-century ancestor, what he really objects to is that people should enjoy themselves and do as they like. If children did not like going to cinemas, the Puritans would step in and compel them to go, on the grounds that cinemas have an educational value—which is perfectly true—and are a vigorous stimulant to the young imagination—which is even more obviously true.

WAL LACE REID'S DEATH.

CINEMA STAR DIES AT LOS ANGELES.

FIGHT AGAINST NARCOTIC HABIT.

LOS ANGELES, January 18. Wallace Reid, the movie actor, died in a sanitarium here, where he was taken a month ago after a nervous breakdown said by his family to have been due to a fight against the narcotic habit.

The death of "Wally" Reid, as he was popularly known, marks the passing of one of the most popular film stars and at the same time brings to a sorrowful climax the many reports that a large number of prominent figures in the Hollywood movie colony are drug addicts.

While the immediate cause of the death of Reid is believed to be influenza, according to reports from Los Angeles during the latter part of December, it is admitted by members of his family that the movie star had used narcotics to some extent. In a statement to the press on December 18, Reid's wife, known to the motion picture world as Dorothy Davenport, said:

"Wallace always drank to some extent, and about two years ago he began to use drugs. He was very ill at that time, but there was a great deal of work at his studio and he felt that he must keep up somehow, so he resorted to the artificial means which have been his undoing. Any talk of his having been connected with a 'dope ring' is absolutely absurd and untrue; nor did he frequent the 'dope parties.' I think he did go to one or two such affairs, but he found them distasteful and never went back."

Reid was making a picture when the collapse came, and was advised at the studio to take a rest. He was removed to a sanitarium near Los Angeles, where he made a valiant but futile fight against death for more than two months. At the time of his collapse Reid was starring for the Famous Players-Lasky Corporation, producers of Paramount pictures.

Several reports to the effect that Reid was on the road to recovery have been received, since his collapse, but these have time proved to be false. On December 19, the attending physician made a statement in which he said that the film star had been near death for the last five or six days, adding: "Laboratory tests at the present time indicate that Mr. Reid is suffering either from a condition of complete exhaustion, or from influenza. A reinfection of influenza is possible at any time and could cause his death. His present illness has no connection with over-indulgence in alcohol or narcotics, although such indulgences have undoubtedly undermined his strength and system in months gone by."

His career.

Reid was the son of Hall Reid, a prominent playwright, and was born in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1892. At the time of his death he was just 31 years old and was at the height of his career. At the age of four, young Wallace appeared on the stage in "Slaves of Gold," but his schooling kept him from theatricals for a number of years after that.

As a young man in Highland, New Jersey, he was a close friend of Herbert H. Hunter, who was in Japan recently with the American baseball mission, and from competing school Reid and Hunter's brother went into business

Reid was graduated from a military academy at Freehold, New Jersey, and began his career in the business world. Business did not suit him, however, and he became a newspaper reporter, going from that into vaudeville, which he left with the rise of the popularity of motion pictures to enter the film industry. In his early pictures he not only took leading roles but was also the director. The first big picture in which he appeared was Griffith's "Birth of a Nation." Since 1917 he has been with Paramount, his last pictures being "Nice People" and "Clareance," the latter by Booth Tarkington.

Reid was considered an extremely handsome man, and he was the idol of American flappers. He was 6 feet, 1 inch in height and weighed 170 pounds.

Besides his wife he is survived by a seven-year-old son and a three-year-old adopted daughter.



He is reported to have offered \$100,000 for three films completed by "Fatty" Arbuckle before his trial which have never been released.

3000 THEATRES FOR CHINA.

BIG AMERICAN SCHEME.

Two thousand motion picture theatres located throughout China within the next three years is the goal set as part of the programme of the Peacock Film Company, subsidiary of the G. \$10,000,000 corporation—the China Enterprises, Incorporated—recently organised by powerful Chinese and American financial groups.

Information regarding the mammoth new corporation was brought back to China by Mr. Chow Tsz-chi, former Minister of Finance and Acting Premier, who has just returned from a tour of Europe and America as Economic Commissioner for the Government.

The great commercial undertaking is being backed in America by the du Pont family and Duke interests and the Chinese group will be correspondingly as strong, the capital being equally divided. The corporation is chartered in Delaware, under a constitution which will permit it to engage in practically every form of commercial activity. Two subsidiary companies have been formed thus far—the film branch and the Universal Textile Corporation, which will enter into the silk and cotton business on a large scale, establishing an industrial unit in Shanghai and producing goods both for China and the export trade.

Other enterprises to be entered into include transportation undertakings, construction of public utility systems such as water and electrical plants, sericulture, silk spinning and so forth.

For the present, Mr. Chow says it is proposed to move carefully, resurveying the ground and paying the way for the launching of the various projects to be embraced by the parent corporation. The textile and motion picture subsidiaries, however, are to make a beginning in the very near future. The latter branch has been placed under the direction of Mr. Frank Chamberlain, formerly associated with the Famous Players Company, who is expected to arrive in Shanghai before the end of this month.

Mr. Chamberlain is bringing with him a large consignment of films and will open offices and begin distribution to various parts of the country. It is planned for a time to engage simply in film distribution, but eventually to produce pictures here both for export to foreign fields and for issue to 2,000 theatres which the promoters propose to secure or establish in many towns in China. A film educational campaign is part of the preliminary programme, Mr. Chow stated, and in this connection an inspection in the way of a "day of light screen," on which pictures may be shown in daytime in the open air, is being brought out to maintain a total of between \$4,000,000 and \$5,000,000 annual income for the film company.

It is the aim of the film company to introduce throughout China pictures calculated to interpret Western culture and to pay in the form of

The textile subsidiary, of which Mr. Chow is president, also expects to make a beginning soon. Mr. William C. Mitchell, of Boston, is the American directors of the parent corporation are Mr. J. A. Thomas, well known here as connected with the B.I.A.T.; Mr. F. F. Garvin, former U.S. Alien Property Custodian; Mr. Charles A. Meade, vice-president of the du Pont corporation; Mr. M. A. Foucher, one of the du Pont directors; Mr. P. E. Mann, of the Eagle Silk Company, of New York; Mr. A. J. Drexel Biddle Jr., who married Miss Mary L. Duke, and Mr. R. C. Patterson.

The Chinese members of the directorate have not yet been definitely announced but among the names mentioned are those of Mr. C. C. Nieh, former president of Yuan-hung, Mr. C. T. Wong, Mr. Chang Chien, Mr. Chow Tsz-chi and others.

Representatives of the American interests are to visit the Orient within the next few months when a conference will be held and definite plans will be drawn up for the various projects contemplated.

Among the representatives who will come to Shanghai Mr. Drexel Biddle will represent the Duke interests, while the du Pont and Brady and other interests will also send representatives.

FILMLAND IN 1933.

STRENUOUS COMPETITION COMING.

During the present year the moving picture industry will probably undergo something like a metamorphosis, says a writer in a House paper. Incidentally, it may be expected to approach appreciably nearer to the status of an art, a change which will be brought about less with intention than by the adoption of new business methods, certainly not inspired by aesthetic considerations. In order to retain its hold on the huge world audience it has conquered, the cinema theatre, it is realised more and more clearly, must offer an economical form of entertainment. The scale of prices charged for admission is the barometer by which, speaking generally, the attendance of the public may be gauged infallibly.

Raise the scale by ever so small a fraction and the effect is immediately noticeable in the increased number of unoccupied seats. Diminish it, and the empty places fill up again. Little wonder, therefore, if many an owner of a picture theatre, seeing his means of livelihood at stake, came to look on the price he was asked to pay for the films he showed as the only thing that really mattered. Cheapness, in the literal sense, became, in fact, the firm exhibitor's first desideratum.

Then the day arrived when the public began to complain about the quality of the entertainment, and, as our American friends graphically express it, to "shop" for films. This put the film manufacturers on their mettle. They announced that henceforth, their motto would be "fewer and better pictures." Unfortunately, fewer and better pictures also meant more costly productions, and the owner of the cinema theatre found that he was expected to pay more and more for the hire of these expensive films. His barometer, the pay-box, on the other hand, warned him that it was impossible to recoup himself for this extra expenditure by charging the public higher admission fees. He was, in fact, between the devil and the deep sea. It is not surprising that, in such circumstances, he began to wonder why films cost so much as they do, and to take quite an impertinent curiosity in the film manufacturer's affairs. As the result of his investigation, he came to the conclusion that his gross extravagance had been practised in many directions, and that for this extravagance he, the exhibitor, had to bear the brunt in the long run.

Films not only cost a large amount of money to make, they also entail vast sums to sell and distribute to exhibitors. Each of the big producing concerns, here and in America, maintains a great expense network of branches for collecting, with one another for the exhibitors' patronage, and all in strictly hostile to any newcomer with artistic ideals, but small capital, who might secure a share of available business. It is asserted, in the way of a "day of light screen," on which pictures may be shown in daytime in the open air, is being brought out to maintain a total of between \$4,000,000 and \$5,000,000 annual income for the film company.

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Shortly coming to Hongkong.

"KISMET."

CORONET'S NEXT PICTURE.

"Kismet," Otis Skinner's remarkable stage success, and the one chosen by him to make his debut in motion pictures, is one of the most magnificent productions ever screened. It is a gorgeous spectacle, filled with fascinating harem girls and intensive dramatic action against a background of beautiful Oriental splendour. The picture, a Robertson-Cole super-special, will be shown at the Coronet Theatre to-morrow.

Chiefly in support of Mr. Skinner are two of the screen's loveliest women, Rosemary Theby and Elinor Fair. Rosemary is of the dark, Oriental type of beauty, while Elinor is a sweet, coy little ingenue.

Miss Theby was born in St. Louis, Missouri. After graduating with high honours from the Sargent Dramatic School, and after a brief career on the legitimate stage, she became very much interested in motion pictures and decided that the screen afforded a greater outlet for her talent than did the stage.

Her unusual type of beauty and dramatic ability attracted so much attention that she was immediately offered leading roles. Perhaps the best work of her screen career is done in "Kismet" where her dark, languorous beauty and striking manner of wearing clothes shows her to advantage. Her portrayal of the seductive, dazzling, Kut-al-Kulb in this production stamps her as one of the finest actresses on the screen.

Miss Fair, just as sweet and wholesome as she appears on the screen, is not yet out of her teens, having been born in Richmond, Virginia in 1902. She is the same winsome little girl who so ably portrayed the role of the invalid girl in "The Miracle Man," and who played ingenue roles in several of Lew Cody's pictures.

Peculiarly suited to Miss Fair is her role in "Kismet." As the beautiful daughter of the beggar, Hajj, she is irresistible, and her interpretation of this role, will surely bring her fame on the silver screen.

"I GIVE HER NOTHING."

PAULINE FREDERICK CUT OFF.

Miss Pauline Frederick, the actress, who was formerly a kinema star, has been cut off without a penny by the will of her father, Richard Libby, who died at Norwich, Connecticut, recently.

The will contained the following clause: "I give and bequeath to my daughter, Pauline Beatrice Rutherford, nothing. I mention this omission to show that the same is intentional and not a mistake."

Miss Frederick is the wife of Dr. Charles Rutherford, of Seattle, one of her girlhood's friends, to whom she was married several months ago.

Previously she was the wife of Willard Mack, the dramatist, whom she divorced. She is now playing in Chicago in "The Guilty Woman."

Last March, when Miss Frederick abandoned the kinema for the stage, she was receiving a salary of £1,800 a week from a film-producing company.



An actor-cowboy who has been arrested in Los Angeles for making his performance too realistic. He is alleged to have held up more than a hundred oil stations and banks in Southern California.



The ban on him has just been lifted in America.



Robert Belmont, aged 38, a San Francisco artist, will wed the widow of his father Mrs. Frances Belmont, who is 33, has a 10 year-old daughter, Mildred, who will then become a stepdaughter to her stepbrother when the present stepson weds his stepmother.



The little sails are easily carried and propel the skiers at a great rate of speed. When there is no wind a stationary airplane propeller is set in motion and provides sufficient breeze.



For love of him she gave up a \$250,000 inheritance by ignoring her stepfather's will.



Assisted by American lifejackets, British Tommies loaded the S. S. "Andreas," a Greek refugee ship chartered in record time by the Red Cross, with Greeks who fled from Constantinople. More than 10,000 persons were put aboard the big ship in three hours amid heartrending scenes.



How America, despite Mr. Volstead gets its holiday supply of "hard stuff." Liquor is shipped directly from the Bahama Islands and taken over either by aeroplane or by motor boat outside the three-mile limit. Bahama natives are shown transferring liquor from "The Mystery J" to the waiting seaplane, which lands it in some obscure cove on Long Island. High-powered motor cars wait to transport the liquor at top speed to the purchasers. These pictures were taken by one of the men engaged in rum-running.



Irate Mrs. Minnie Engelhardt is seeking divorce from her husband, Rev. Dr. Adolph Engelhardt, charging him with practising "Negligent Religion," aided by phantoms, a "High Priestess" and "Soul Coloured Kimonos." He is a "Love Patient" of her husband, the object to his ministrations to 122 other women via his novel "Touch System" of "Divine Healing." She names these 122 women as co-respondents, the oldest being Mrs. H. L. Brayton, aged 82. Among the others are Miss Alice Manning, who has entered a counter-suit against Mrs. Engelhardt, and Mrs. Ida Angell, aged 60.



The engagement, has been announced of Miss Edna Sampson, film actress, to J. Stanley Holbrook, salesman, who, though he is only 26, has already been married and divorced four times.

When less than 12 hours old, after having been abandoned by his mother, little Johnny Salvatore, now ten months old, was found starving on the doorstep of Mr. and Mrs. John Salvatore, who adopted him. Although he cannot talk he is able to go through physical exercises that have caused amazement. Salvatore is an athletic instructor and gave the infant a thorough course of physical exercises.

— USE GLOY —
because it is the cleanest and
best adhesive.
British Made.

A Style for Everybody.

Whatever your style preference in SOCIAL STATIONERY
is you are sure to find it at

DER. A. WING & CO.

60, Des Voeux Road Central.

Write your letters with the latest
in **STYLOGRAPHIC PENS.** They
ensure a neatly written letter.
You may try them before buying.

EYES RIGHT
If not consult the
CHINESE OPTICAL CO.
67 Queen's Road Central.
The house recommended by
many local doctors for its
accuracy and cheapness.
SEE US THEN, SEE.



BRINGING UP FATHER

EARLIER TELEGRAMS:

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

RUHR DIFFICULTIES.

Brussels, February 13th. Official circles display considerable concern regarding a report published here stating that the French intend, within a few days, an extension of the blockade to German seaports; it is even said that a squadron of battle cruisers and a squadron of light cruisers have been earmarked for this purpose, to be commanded by Admiral Dumesnil.

A French report from Dueseldorf asserts that discontent is spreading amongst all descriptions of the working classes who are unemployed. The Germans are applying to the French Authorities for re-employment and offering to work the mines and railways. The report says that Labour circles admit that the present state of affairs cannot continue, and resolutions have been passed at many meetings in favour of seeking an agreement with France.

Paris, February 13th. Le Matin states that, following a refusal by the Municipality of Gelsenkirchen to pay the mentioned earlier General Decree had caused the arrest of the leading banking officials of the town.

Paris, February 13th. The Government has tabled a bill authorising the borrowing of thirteen milliard francs.

RHODODENDRONS FROM CHINA.

London, February 13th. It is pointed out by the Times that many new rhododendrons which have been introduced from West China are proving hardy in England, at any rate in sheltered gardens.

QUEEN'S THREAT TO ABDICATE.

NEW STORIES OF VICTORIA.

ATTACKS ON HER HUSBAND.

Lady Frances Balfour has discharged a family duty to her ancestor in her "Life of George Fourth Earl of Aberdeen" (just published; Hodder and Stoughton, 2 vols., £2 2s.). A quarter of a century ago Lord Stanmore, one of the fourth earls' sons, produced a short life of his father, in which he sketched the cream of most of the documents now printed by Lady Frances Balfour; but the present biography will be indispensable to specialists in the history of the first half of the 19th century.

Some interesting letters from Queen Victoria, which were not printed by Lord Stanmore are contained in these two volumes. During the Crimean War there was an outbreak of cholera, and the Archbishop of Canterbury proposed that a form of prayer against the disease should be used. The Queen's comment was:

"She strongly objects to these special prayers, which are, in fact, not a sign of gratitude to, or confidence in, the Almighty; for if this is to be the course to be pursued, we ought to have one for every illness, and certainly in 1837 the influenza was notoriously more fatal than the cholera has ever been, yet no one would have thought of having a prayer against that."

Queen Victoria was deeply wounded by popular criticism, which treated her husband, the Prince Consort, as the "chief agent of the Austro-Belgian-Coburg Orleans clique, the avowed enemies of England." She wrote to Aberdeen in bitter indignation:

"Were the Queen to believe that these principled and immoral insinuations really were those of any but a wicked and despicable few, she would leave a position which nothing but her domestic happiness could make her endure, and retire to private life leaving the country to choose another ruler after their heart's content."

This threat to abdicate was not pressed because Lord Aberdeen persuaded her that it would be wiser "to treat the whole matter with contempt and to consign it to oblivion."

In another letter Queen Victoria complains that "Amongst other matters there is one which the Queen is shocked at, for it is neither more nor less than supporting her aunt, the Duchess of Kent's eldest sister, of promoting intrigues in Italy under the name of Mazzini and ordering her to be watched!"

Her letter to Lord Aberdeen was not shaken by his unpopularity in the country; which was extraordinary. In the hour of his fall she had for him kind and generous words which moved him deeply.

Don't Cough.

It is absurd to allow a cough to hang on and sap your vitality when Chamberlain's Cough Remedy will cure you. You don't know where a persistent cough will land you. You can't afford to allow your throat and lungs to become diseased when it is such a simple thing to stop them by a simple remedy. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is a simple thing to stop them by a simple remedy. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is a simple thing to stop them by a simple remedy.

SHADOWS BEFORE.

COMING EVENTS ADVERTISED IN THE "MAIL."

ENTERTAINMENTS.

February 15.—Coronet Theatre: "The Prodigal Judge." World Theatre: Frank Mayo in "Doctor Jim." Kowloon Theatre: H. B. Warner in "The White Dove."

February 16.—Theatre Royal, Gilbert and Sullivan Opera Co., "The Yeoman of the Guard."

February 16.—Theatre Royal, Gilbert and Sullivan Opera Co., "Iolanthe."

February 17.—Theatre Royal, Gilbert and Sullivan Opera Co., (Matinee) "H.M.S. Pinafore."

February 17.—Theatre Royal, Gilbert and Sullivan Opera Co., "The Chocolate Soldier."

February 19.—Theatre Royal, Gilbert and Sullivan Opera Co., "Katinka."

SOCIAL.

March 6.—Fancy dress ball in aid of the S.P.C.A. at City Hall at 9.30 p.m.

PUBLIC AUCTIONS.

February 19.—Land sales, P.W.D., 3 p.m.
February 26—27.—Lammert Bros. valuable household furniture and curios belonging to the estate of the late Mr. R. A. Gubbay, at "Ulbank," No. 2 May Road, 2.45 p.m.

SPORTING EVENTS.

February 17.—Hongkong Football Association Inter-Club Game, South China v. Shanghai. Kick-off 4 p.m.

February 19.—St. Andrew's Church Men's Association Annual Marathon Race at 4 p.m.

February 28.—First day of Jockey Club's race meeting.

March 1.—Second day of Jockey Club's race meeting.

March 2.—Third day of Jockey Club's race meeting.

March 3.—Fourth day of Jockey Club's race meeting.

COMPANY MEETINGS.

February 15.—Union Waterboat Co., Ltd., 13th annual meeting, Doherty and Co.'s offices, 11.30 a.m.

February 20.—38th Annual meeting of shareholders of Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., at the offices of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., Ltd., at noon.

February 23.—34th ordinary annual meeting of Green Island Cement Co., Ltd., at St. George's Buildings, at 11 a.m.

February 24.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, ordinary yearly meeting, City Hall, noon.

FLOWER SHOW.

February 22.—Annual flower and vegetable show of the Hongkong Horticultural Society.

THE DAWN OF WOMANHOOD.

Its Difficulties and Dangers

Some girls upon the threshold of womanhood drift into a decline of all care and attention. Even strong and usually lively girls become weak, depressed, irritable and listless. It is the dawn of womanhood—important in the life of every girl—and prompt measures should be taken to keep the blood rich and pure. If the blood is not in a healthy condition at this stage, the body becomes ill-nourished, and other ailments develop. If the health is not maintained by efficiency of pure strong blood, all sorts of evils and weaknesses are likely to arise. Remember this, Dr. Williams' pink pills, because of their unique blood making properties, have saved thousands of girls and women in Europe, America, Africa, Australia and Asia from being life-long sufferers. For example read the evidence of Assistant Judge U. Poh Yick, a respected government official residing at Thantou, Burma, who writes:

"My oldest daughter, aged 21, suffered from anæmia for some time. She was listless, and had neither the strength nor the ambition to pursue her studies. Acting on advice, I obtained a few bottles of Dr. Williams' pink pills for my daughter, and very soon after she started giving them a wonderful improvement in her general health set in. Now she is strong and well, has a good appetite and is no longer troubled with headaches and insomnia."

Not for girls and women only, but also for men, Dr. Williams' pink pills for pale people are the most reliable blood builder, fortifying weak nerves and creating the liberal supply of red healthy blood, which everybody needs to sustain strength.

So begin to get well by starting Dr. Williams' pink pills now. Of chemists, or direct from Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., 50, Klange Road, Shanghai. \$1.00 per bottle. \$3.00 for six, post free.

Beware of Colds.

Children are much more likely to contract the various diseases when they have colds. Whooping cough, diphtheria, scarlet fever, and consumption are diseases that are often contracted when the child has a cold. That is why all medical authorities say I warn of colds. For the quick cure of colds you will find nothing better than Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It can always be depended upon and is pleasant and safe to take. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

BANKS.

ASIA BANKING CORPORATION

HEAD OFFICE NEW YORK

Operating under Supervision of the Banking Department of the State of New York and the Federal Reserve Bank.

General Banking, Current and Savings Accounts and Fixed Deposits opened in Local Currency, U. S. Dollar and Pounds Sterling upon application.

Commercial and Travelers Letters of Credit issued. American Bankers Association and City and County Trust Co. of New York Travelers Checks for Sale and endorsement.

BRANCHES:

Shanghai, Peking, Tientsin, Hankow, Hongkong, Canton, Singapore, Manila, San Francisco, Yokohama, D. M. BIGGAR, Manager.

EXCHANGE.

Hongkong, February 15, 1923.

On London Bank, Wire ... 1/2-1/4

On demand, ... 1/2-1/4

Credit, 4 months sight, ... 1/2-1/4

Documentary 4 months sight, ... 1/2-1/4

On New York, On demand, ... 89 1/2

Credit, 4 months sight, ... 91 0

Credit, 60 days sight, ... 84 1/2

On Bombay, On demand, ... 164

On Calcutta, On demand, ... 164

On Singapore, On demand, ... 85

On Manila, On demand, ... 104

On Shanghai, On demand, ... 107 1/2

Gold, 100 fine (per ton), ... 48 40

Sovereigns (Bank's buying rate), ... 8 7 1/2

Silver (per oz.), ... 30 1/2

On Yokohama, On demand, ... 107 1/2

Gold, 100 fine (per ton), ... 48 40

Sovereigns (Bank's buying rate), ... 8 7 1/2

Silver (per oz.), ... 30 1/2

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Gold, 100 fine (per ton), ... 48 40

Sovereigns (Bank's buying rate), ... 8 7 1/2

Silver (per oz.), ... 30 1/2

NOTICE.

PEAK TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED.

TIME TABLE

WEEK DAYS.

7.00 a.m. to 8.00 a.m. every 15 minutes

8.00 a.m. to 10.00 a.m. " 10 "

10.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. " 15 "

11.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. " 15 "

12.00 noon to 1.00 p.m. " 15 "

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LOCAL SHARE MARKET

HONGKONG, FEBRUARY 15th, 1923.

OFFICIAL QUOTATIONS.

11 A.M.

Banks, Rates, Stock Exchange, Sharebrokers Association

U.S.E.C. T.T. selling rate ... 2 1/2

and on London ... 7 1/2

and on Shanghai ... 7 1/2

Hongkong Bank ... 99 1/2

East Asia Bank ... 100 n.

Marine Insurance ... 495 b. 500 ca.

North China Insurance ... 138 b.

